

EPA Report for October 21, 2013

Communities and Ecosystems Division

Tribal Program Office

GAP Guidebook

On May 15, the Agency released a new [GAP Guidance document](#). The guidance incorporates input from the consultation and coordination process that ended February 22, 2013. This new Guidance establishes an overall framework for tribes and EPA to follow in building tribal environmental protection program capacities with GAP resources and supersedes previous Agency GAP guidance. The new GAP Guidance will affect grant work plans negotiated in the Fiscal Year 2014 funding cycle for activities in Fiscal Year 2015 and beyond.

RTOC

The RTOC is looking for representatives for the Southern Arizona (1) and Nevada (1) geographic areas, if you are interested, please contact Mariela Lopez (lopez.mariela@epa.gov) or Cornelius Antone (Cornelius.Antone@tonation-nsn.gov).

Waste Management Division

TRIBAL SOLID WASTE STAFF CHANGES

What: Oral Saulters and Jenny Stephenson have joined the Tribal Solid Waste Team.

Oral recently joined us as a NNEMS fellow (National Network for Environmental Management Studies). Oral will be supporting the assessment of tribal waste management programs in terms of infrastructure, resources, and operations while evaluating opportunities to enhance intergovernmental collaboration and community outreach on sustainable materials management.

Jenny joined EPA Region 9 in October, transferring from our Headquarters' office. There, Jenny worked for nine years in various programs in the Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, and Energy Star. Jenny will be the Tribal Solid Waste Project Officer working with tribes in Nevada, and will also be joining the RTOC Tribal Solid Waste Workgroup.

When: They both have started in their new positions as of October 17th, 2013.

Who: You can contact Oral Saulters at saulters.oral@epa.gov or 415-972-3046. You can contact Jenny Stephenson at stephenson.jenny@epa.gov or 415-972-3429. Tom Huetteman continues as the Waste Management Division's Associate Director to work with tribes. You can contact Tom at: huetteman.tom@epa.gov or 415-972-3751.

Water Division

FUNDING AVAILABILITY: Water Pollution Control Program (CWA Section 106)

Draft workplans and budgets are due to your CWA Project Officer by **February 3, 2014**. If you have any questions about the CWA Section 106 program or funding process, please contact your CWA Project Officer, or Wendell Smith at (415) 972-3421 or smith.wendell@epa.gov.

WORKSHOP: Developing Southwest Wetland Programs for Tribes – Monitoring, Assessing and Protecting Wetlands

The Conservation Technology Information Center is working with the US EPA and the Pueblo of Isleta to conduct this workshop on November 5-7, 2013 at the Isleta Resort and Casino in Albuquerque, NM. Participants will be introduced to the basics of how to identify, monitor and assess wetlands, set wetland program priorities and find program funding. The workshop is free, however, registration is required. Please [click here](#) to register online or download a registration form [here](#). For additional information, contact Tammy Taylor at 765-494-1814 or taylor@ctic.org.

NEW EMPLOYEES

Jay Colingham has joined US EPA Region 9 as an Environmental Protection Specialist in the Water Division's Tribal Office. Jay will serve as a Clean Water Act project officer for several tribes in Northern California and Eastern Nevada. Prior to coming to Region 9, Jay was the Assistant Program Manager of the Texas Rural Water Foundation, a non-profit organization that provides services to rural water systems throughout Texas. He also worked as a Research Associate at the Louisiana Bucket Brigade representing and assisting fence-line neighborhoods around oil refineries and chemical facilities. Jay has a BS in Molecular and Cellular Biology from the University of Puget Sound, and an MPH in International Health from Tulane University.

Transferring from US EPA Region 10, Mike Lehner will serve as the Clean Water Act project officer for tribes in Southern California and will work with the Navajo Nation on wastewater infrastructure projects. In his 4 years in Region 10, Mike worked on a variety of water and wastewater earmarks and the Clean Water State Revolving Fund. Before coming to EPA, Mike spent 6 years as a submarine officer on a nuclear-powered submarine and 2 years in construction management. Mike holds a BS in Comprehensive Science from Villanova University and a Masters in Engineering Management from Old Dominion University. He is also a Project Management and LEED Accredited Professional.

Nancy Sockabasin has moved from the Waste Division to the Water Division's Tribal Office. Nancy now serves as Clean Water Act project officer for Arizona tribes, and regional coordinator for the Clean Water Indian Set-Aside program. Early in her career, Nancy worked with her own tribe (the Passamaquoddy Tribe of Maine) to develop and implement water quality protection programs under the Clean Water Act. Conducting water quality monitoring and data analysis were part of her assignment. For more than 15 years, Nancy has worked with Region 9 tribes to develop their General Assistance (GAP), Solid Waste, and Toxics Release Inventory programs.

Superfund Division

Need Help With Targeted Brownfields Assessments?

The EPA Brownfields Office offers technical assistance on Targeted Brownfields Assessments year round. An EPA contractor can assist you (no funding and no match, non-competitive) with Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments, land reuse planning, evaluate clean-up options and provide cost estimates based on future use. Contact Glen Kistner for more details, at 415-972-3004 or Kistner.glen@epa.gov.

Air Division

Tribal Air Funding: In 2013 we received 37 proposals, requesting \$4.8 million in CAA tribal funding for FY 14. Region 9's portion of the tribal air allocation was \$2.9 million, reduced from \$3.2 million last year. Due to this funding shortfall, we will be able to fund only 30 of the proposals. Funding for next year may be reduced further due to sequestration.

PM2.5 Standards: On December 13, 2013, state recommendations, and tribal recommendations, if they choose to provide them, are due to EPA as to what areas should be designated as attaining or not attaining the 2012 fine particulate matter (PM2.5) standards. EPA plans to designate areas by December 12, 2014, after providing a public comment period and notifying affected states and tribes and offering to consult.

For more guidance, please see Developing Designation Recommendations for Areas of Indian Country. This manual consolidates existing guidance in a user friendly format for the tribes to assist those that may be interested in, or considering, making a NAAQS designation recommendation for their area of Indian country. It can be found at:

<http://www.epa.gov/air/tribal/pdfs/DevelopingaDesignationRecommendationforIndianCountry.pdf>.

Navajo Generating Station: On February 5, 2013, EPA proposed a best available retrofit technology (BART) determination for Navajo Generating Station, an Alternative to BART, and a framework for evaluating Alternatives to BART. On July 26, 2013, a group of stakeholders known as the Technical Work Group (TWG) submitted to EPA an additional Alternative to BART for consideration. EPA did not participate in the TWG and has independently evaluated the TWG Alternative to determine if it meets the requirements of the Clean Air Act and Regional Haze Rule. Based on our evaluation, on September 25, 2013, EPA supplemented our February 25, 2013 proposed rule, with an additional proposal to approve the TWG Alternative. EPA will be holding five open house and public hearing events throughout Arizona, including Indian country, in mid-November. More information can be found here: <http://www.epa.gov/region9/air/navajo/index.html#station>.

Class 1 Redesignation Guidance: "Guidance for Indian Tribes Seeking Class 1 Redesignation of Indian Country Pursuant to Section 164(c) of the Clean Air Act" was finalized on August 29, 2013. This guidance brings together existing Agency policy on Class 1 redesignation into a single document and does not set new policy. The guidance provides: background on the PSD program, explanation of the redesignation process, key considerations for tribes in pursuing redesignation, and FAQs. The Guidance can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/air/tribal/airprogs.html#nsr>.

Upcoming ITEP Classes:

-Oct 28-Nov 1, 2013—Air Pollution Technology	Las Vegas, NV
-Nov 19-22, 2013—Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Diagnostic Tools (NEW)	Las Vegas, NV
-Jan 14-17, 2014—Introduction to Tribal Air Quality	Flagstaff, AZ